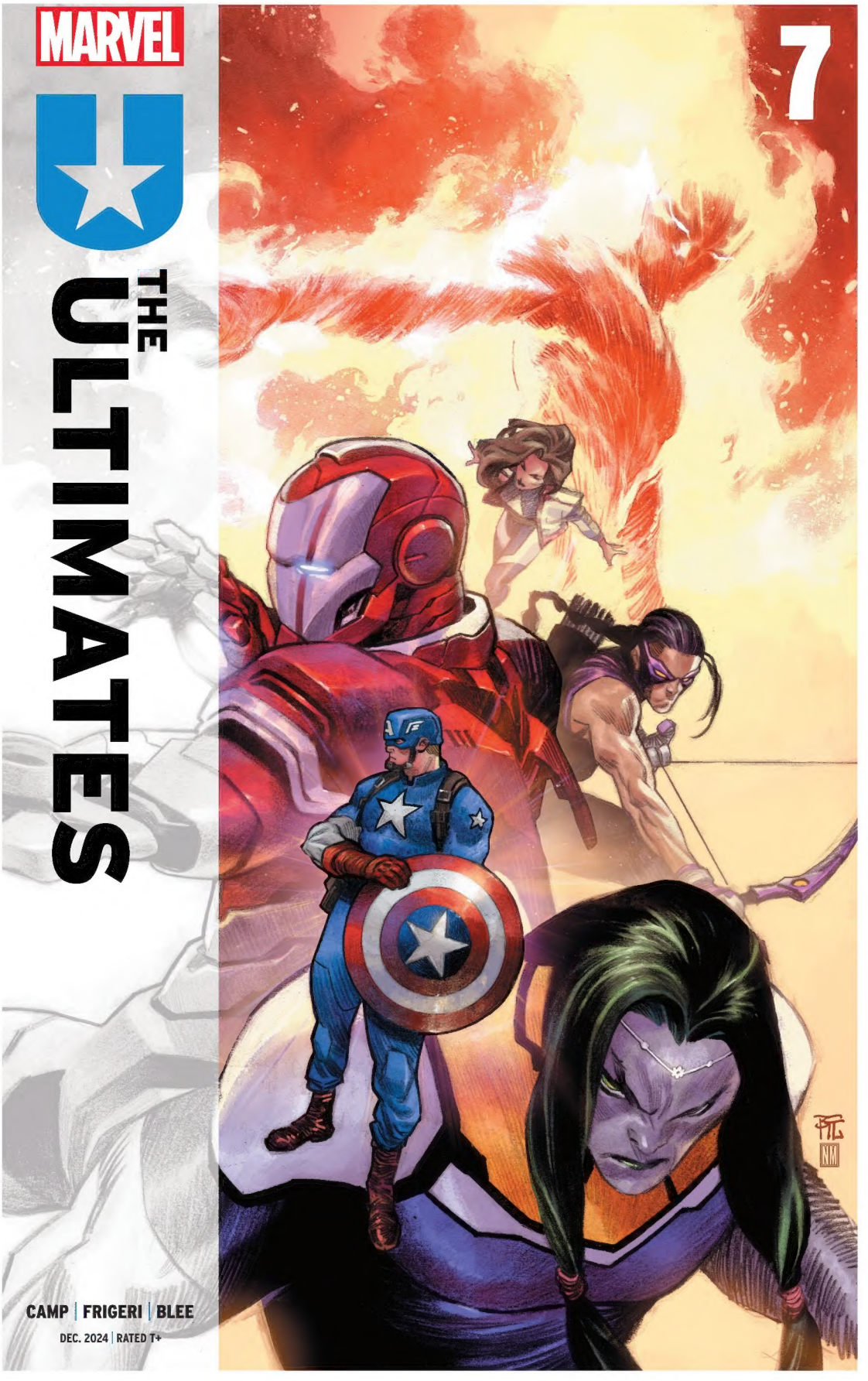
MARVEL
THE ULTIMATES
7
CAMP | FRIGERI | BLEE
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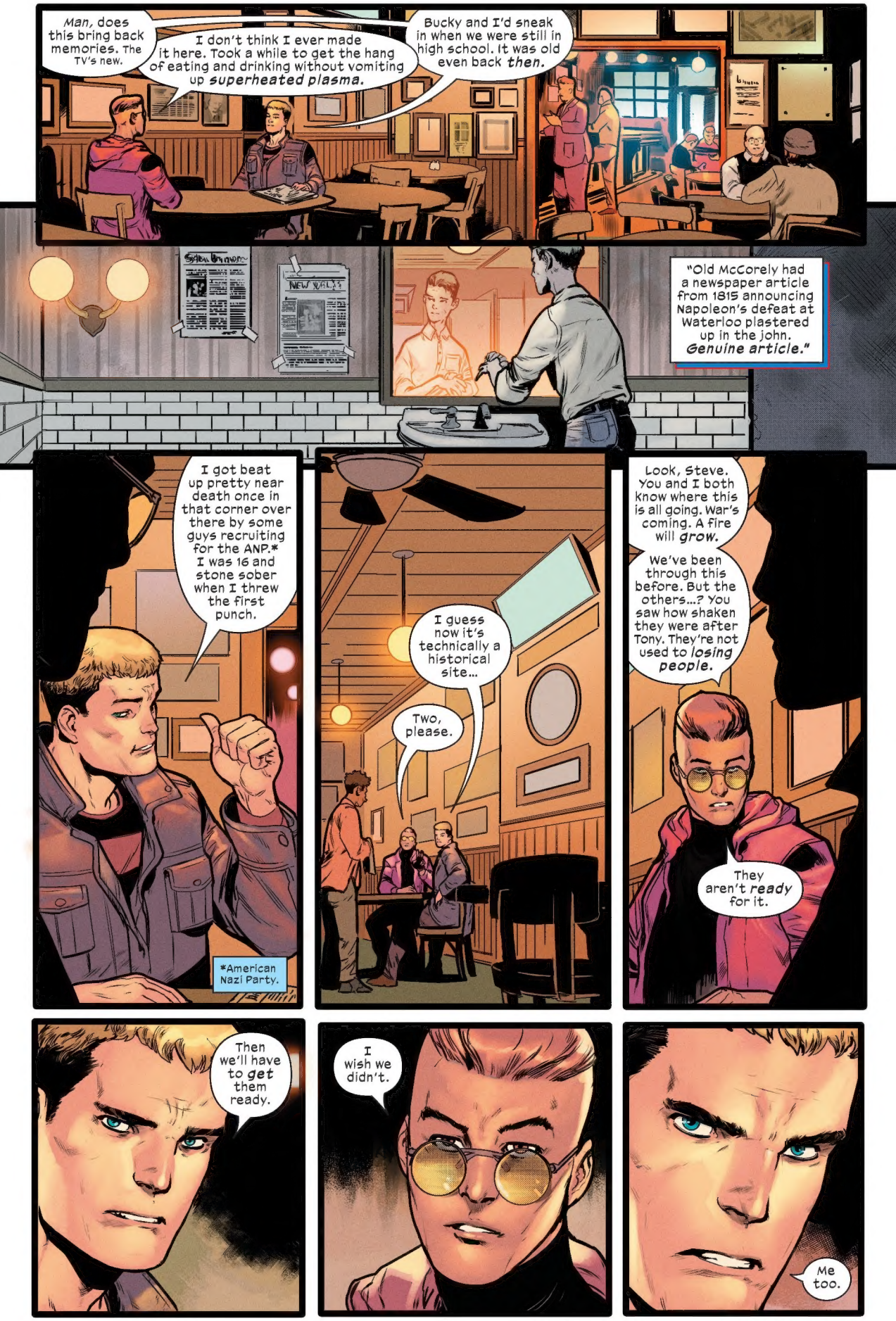
DAILY BUGLE
WHO ARE THE ULTIMATES?
One Year After the Stark Tower Attack: What do they want, and why do they hate us?
You see this?
They blame us for everything but the Lincoln assassination. Where are the facts? Whatever happened to the fourth estate?
Where did you even find a physical newspaper? They put everything in this thing called the internet now...
Don't do that, Jim. You're as old as I am.
I've been rebuilt, soup to nuts. Remade for a new age.
I'm with it, Steve.
People don't say that anymore.
...No.
Are you sure?

C'mon, it should be around here somewhere.
Everything's so different...
Bowery shop
The city was always changing, even in our day. They have maps on phones now...
I don't *need* a map. *Or* a phone. I just need to get my *bearings*...
Well you better find them fast, Steve.
What's that supposed to mean?
They're all looking to you for leadership. Especially with *Tony* gone--
I know that.
But do you--?
Hey, we're here!
I told you I knew where I was going!
McCORELY'S OLD ALE HOUSE
SINCE 1853


Man, does this bring back memories. The TV's new.
I don't think I ever made it here. Took a while to get the hang of eating and drinking without vomiting up superheated plasma.
Bucky and I'd sneak in when we were still in high school. It was old even back then.
"Old McCorely had a newspaper article from 1815 announcing Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo plastered up in the john. Genuine article."
I got beat up pretty near death once in that corner over there by some guys recruiting for the ANP.* I was 16 and stone sober when I threw the first punch.
*American Nazi Party.
I guess now it's technically a historical site...
Two, please.
Look, Steve. You and I both know where this is all going. War's coming. A fire will grow.
We've been through this before. But the others...? You saw how shaken they were after Tony. They're not used to losing people.
They aren't ready for it.
Then we'll have to get them ready.
I wish we didn't.
Me too.

The crowd is large, a big show of solidarity despite rumors of a planned anniversary attack from the Ultimates Terrorist Network...
NYNS
LIVE AT STARK TOWER MEMORIAL
We never got to make that toast. To...new beginnings.
Beer
--remember the thousands senselessly lost, literally hundreds of thousands of mourners here today--
Just doesn't seem right now. How about--to all the ones who don't get saved.
We are so sorry.
And to Tony. Who brought us together. We'll try not to let you down.
I pray for them.
You know, part of me thought we should be there--
All those who we lost. I pray for them every day.
No... the kind of security they've got...

"...you'd have to be some kind of fool to go in *person.*"
One year later, and I still don't understand the darkness that drives men to this. To make their point with the deaths of thousands.
Maybe we shouldn't have come.
Now we know this destruction comes with an *ideology.* A *movement...* of *hate.*
It was your idea in the first place, Hank.
I didn't think-- someone could *recognize* us.
We left the costumes at home. We're just Hank Pym and Janet Van Dyne. Regular people, coming to pay our respects. Like thousands of others.
But in the face of *hate,* what else can we do but fully commit ourselves to *love?* And forgiveness? And *pray* for them-- yes, even them.
Boo!
[redacted] that!
They killed my son!
I miss my wife!
They really hate us, *huh?*
They don't know us. They don't understand what we're trying to do.
Yeah. Maybe.

We will now commence a reading of the names...
What happened here--it wasn't about us. You know that, right?
...William O'Shea... Brooks Pace...
It was a little about us.
I just thought it would be good for--after everything we've been through lately... with *Tony*...and...and you almost *died*, Jan.
But I didn't die. I'm okay.
Don't. Don't pretend everything's--everything's fine.
Everything *is* fine.
Sponsored by
...Macio Paz. Stacy Peralta...
Sponsored by OSCORP

The things we've seen--the things we've *done*--
Please, Hank--not this again--
People have *died* because of us, Jan. Innocent people. Directly or indirectly. Don't pretend it doesn't bother you.
I know you're not sleeping. I know you're not sleeping because *I'm* not sleeping. How long do you think we can keep going like this?
I just thought... I thought it would be good if we could... *mourn* together or something, I guess. I don't know.
It was stupid.
No. It was a good idea, Hank.
Genius, actually.
by OSCORP
Besides, after coming back from Heaven...

"...we're supposed to be *lying low.*"
Please-- we don't want any trouble!
OSCORP DEFENSE
Formerly Stane/Stark Defense
SECURITY
We just work here!
SECURITY
EXIT
Hey! You're just a kid!
Just tell us what we gotta do to get out of here alive!
SECURITY
Stay very still.

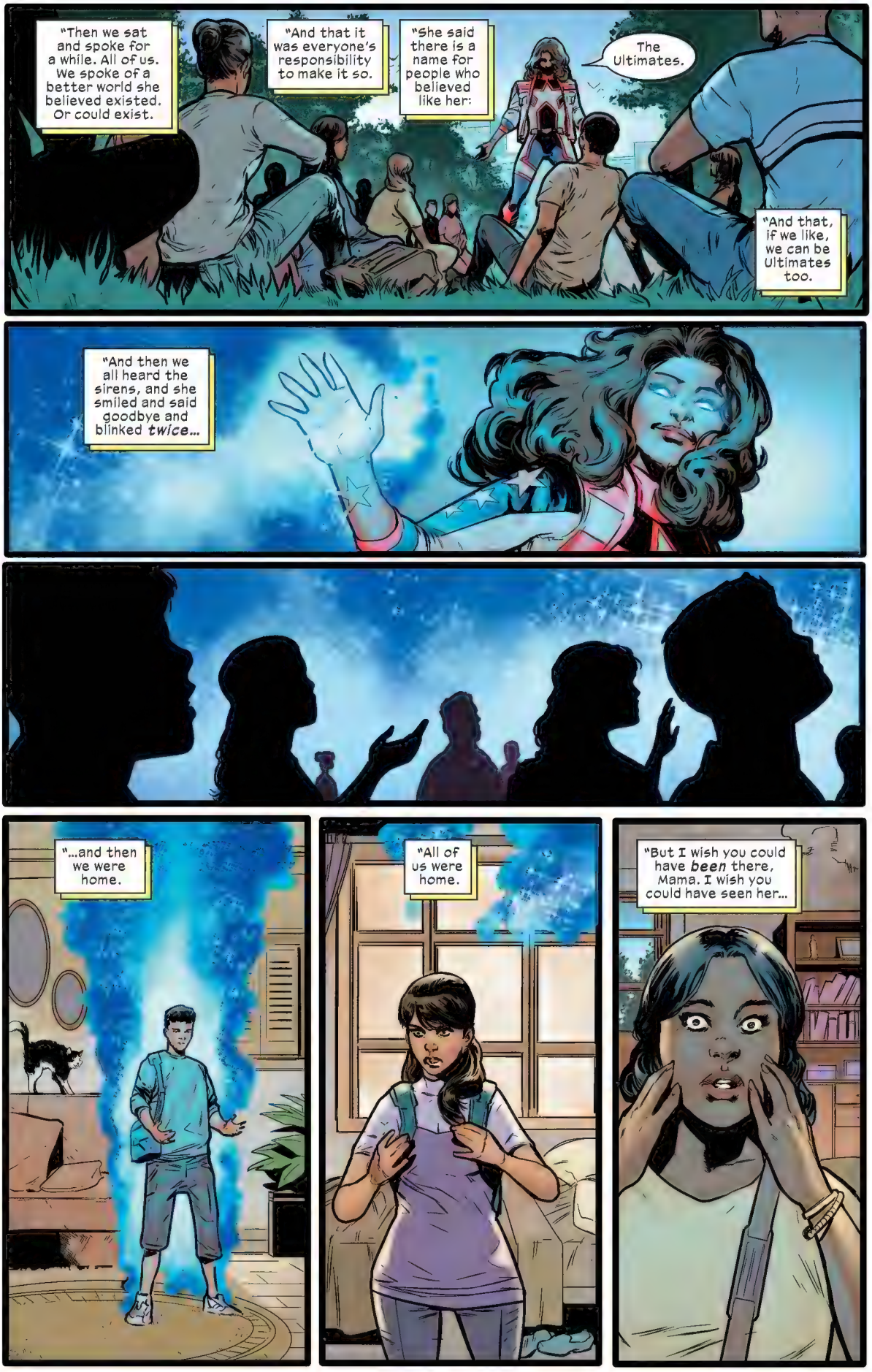
SECURITY
You don't know what you're doing.
Shut up, Gary!
These weapons are bound for the Upper and Lower Kingdoms. There's a war going on down there. A secret war.
But that's a world away. Nothing to do with you or me. Not your fight or mine.
Actually, what I'm coming to realize?
TWANG

SFFT
SFFT
SFFT
SFFT
TING
BEEP
BEEP
CRAKOOM
It's all one fight.
"And I'm telling you, Mama, you should have been there, Mama, you should have come.

DEMOCRACIA
GUATEMALA ES EL PUEBLO
"I know you don't believe in protest, and for you democracy means hard old times...
"...I know that your legs ache with varicose veins and the heat makes you tired, but you should have been there, Mama. You should have seen the stars.
EL PUEBLO TIENE VOZ!
LIBERT PARA ELEGIR
"They came with their sticks and tasers, their bulletproof shields and high-tech body armor. All of this for just a few dozen of us demonstrating in peace.
"And then the sky opened up above us.

"And she came *down* from it, covered in *stars.*
"She was so beautiful, Mama, the most beautiful person I've ever seen. Light poured out of her, like a vessel, or a saint.
"She was so bright it hurt to look at her, but it hurt more to look away.
"Then she looked at the police-- looked and blinked *once,* and--

"--and she--
"--she--
"--and I don't know *what* she did.
"But their high-tech armors *melted*--then *froze*--
"--and they fell over, making loud metallic sounds as they hit the ground.
"Still as statues.
CLUNK
CLUNG
CLUNK
"She said:
I'm sure someone will be along to cut them out soon.
"And she spoke perfectly, but with the strangest accent I've never heard before.
"Someone asked her name, and she said:
America.
"And it was beautiful, how she said it.
"Someone asked her where she came from, and she said:
I don't know. Everytime I try to think about the past, I end up thinking about the *future*.


"Then we sat and spoke for a while. All of us. We spoke of a better world she believed existed. Or could exist.
"And that it was everyone's responsibility to make it so.
"She said there is a name for people who believed like her:
The Ultimates.
"And that, if we like, we can be Ultimates too.
"And then we all heard the sirens, and she smiled and said goodbye and blinked *twice*...
"...and then we were home.
"All of us were home.
"But I wish you could have *been* there, Mama. I wish you could have seen her...

"...I wish you could have seen *the stars.*"

What did you say to Doom, Sif?

I told him that there were Nine Realms and that we have tarried too long in Midgard while neglecting the others.

I told him that we would travel Yggdrasil sowing chaos, spreading discontent and raising armies.

I told him we would deliver to All-Father Loki, master of chaos, a taste of his own medicine.

And his response?

I don't know. I didn't bother to *wait* for it.

The Asgard Rebellion begins *now.* So... where should we start, Thor?

Send me back, Doom!
As I said, I cannot--
I have waited long enough! Your teleport network--
It is not a question of capacity. If I send you back to your island, you will die.
Then I will die.

Not just you.
They will take you immediately. Banner and his men. They will torture you until you break.
They have instruments and techniques at their disposal that allow them to play through your memories like *videotape*. Cameras sensitive enough to take *pictures* of your *thoughts*.
They will discover everything about us. Including the existence of this satellite.
Not just you. We'll *all* die. And our ambitions with us.
My people *need* me.
You being here is the only thing that keeps your people *safe*. It is the power Banner has over you. His only leverage.
Then I... *I* need my *people*.

I am... out of practice with people. I think, actually...I was never very good with them.
The Ultimates was his idea.
Now we know this destruction comes with an ideology. A movement... of hate.
NYNS
LIVE AT STARK TOWER MEMORIAL
And now he's left us... to hold it together.
NYNS
LIVE AT STARK TOWER MEMORIAL
Perhaps... perhaps I can tap into the Hulk's surveillance system.
You won't be able to be there with them, but you'll be able to see that they're safe.
Thank you. That...will be better.
We must keep going. We owe it to him. We owe it to them all.
But in the face of hate...

...what else can we do but fully commit ourselves to the cause of love?
And forgiveness?
And pray for them.
ELEVEN MONTHS REMAINING...

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